July 24, 2001

Liam Goldrick, Policy Analyst National Governors Association, Center for Best Practices 444 North Capitol Street, Suite 267 Washington, DC 20001-1512

Dear Mr. Goldrick:

I am pleased to offer my support to Mississippi's *Interdisciplinary Network on School-Health Partnerships* proposal. This proposal is submitted by a team of education and health agencies committed to promoting school health and improving the academic achievement of Mississippi's students.

Education is a priority for Mississippi. Healthier students will be more likely to advance in school and to prepare themselves for a successful future. The sharing of health education materials and information is critical to a local education agency's ability to encourage healthy lifestyles among its students.

Mississippi's proposal endeavors to provide a coordinated school health program that is built upon collaboration of the listed partners, as well as other organizations and agencies. As depicted in our proposal, several programs and partnerships have been implemented in recent years to promote comprehensive school health. Participation in this initiative provides the opportunity to enhance these efforts for maximum efficiency and effectiveness.

I believe that Mississippi's proposal is worthy of your resources. It strives to improve the quality of life for our state's children. Thank you for your consideration and assistance.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr